

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CARACA 09141 031548Z

66

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05

SP-02 SS-15 SAB-01 /045 W

----- 075807

R 031403Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0002

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 9141

ARA FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, VE

SUBJECT: THIRD COUNTRY ISSUES

REF STATE 192947

1. THERE IS NOT MUCH MORE TO BE SAID FROM HERE ABOUT THESE MATTERS. OUR SUPPORT FOR "FREEDOM OF ACTION" AT SAN JOSE WAS EXPECTED BY AND NO DOUBT GRATIFYING TO THE GOV. CONTINUED USG RECALCITRANCE WOULD HAVE HAD A MORE CONSEQUENTIAL EFFECT ON HOW OUR LATIN AMERICAN POLICY APPEARS HERE. AS I REPORTED, THE FOREIGN MINISTER WAS PLEASED WHEN WE LIFTED THE THIRD-COUNTRY SANCTIONS. IT IS MY VIEW THAT HE SINCERELY WANTS A BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP OF GREATER ACCOMMODATION AND THUS WELCOMES THE REMOVAL OF SUCH POTENTIAL IRRITANTS. OTHERWISE, THE GOV SEEMS TO HAVE TAKEN THE SAN JOSE RESULTS AND OUR OWN SUBSEQUENT MOVE AS A SIGNAL THAT THE TIME HAS ARRIVED TO GET DOWN TO BUSINESS WITH CUBA. A LUSTROUS MISSION OF BANKERS AND OTHER PRIVATE-SECTOR MOVERS PUT TOGETHER BY THE GOV'S INSTITUTE OF FOREIGN TRADE LEFT IN SEMI-SECRECY FOR HAVANA LAST FRIDAY.

2. IN ANY CASE, CUBA AS A SIGNIFICANT ISSUE IS BEHIND US HERE. (THE GOV WILL WATCH WITH INTEREST WHAT WE DO ABOUT CUBA ON THE BILATERAL FRONT. BUT I FIND NO EVIDENCE THAT THE "SYMBOLIC IMPORTANCE" OF US BILATERAL POLICY TOWARD CUBA STIRS MANY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 CARACA 09141 031548Z

EMOTIONS IN VENEZUELA.) PANAMA IS ANOTHER MATTER. IN OUR

LAST MEETING THE FOREIGN MINISTER EXPRESSED TO ME CONSIDERABLE SATISFACTION OVER AMBASSADOR BUNKER'S IMPENDING RETURN. AT THE SAME TIME, HE ONCE AGAIN WORRIED ALOUD OVER THE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES FAILED NEGOTIATIONS WOULD HAVE FOR U.S. HEMISPHERE AND BILATERAL RELATIONS. HE HAS A FAIR APPRECIATION OF HOW DIFFICULT THE ISSUE IS FOR US. CARLOS ANDRES PEREZ, ON THE OTHER HAND, DOES NOT STRIKE ME AS EQUALLY UNDERSTANDING. HE LISTENS TO TORRIJOS AND CAN BE EXPECTED TO REFLECT THAT GENTLEMAN'S ASSESSMENT OF OUR INTENTIONS AND ACTIONS.

3. AS WE HAVE SAID BEFORE, HE IS THOROUGHLY COMMITTED TO THE PROPOSITION THAT THERE MUST BE A NEW DEAL ON THE CANAL. THE ISSUE HAS BECOME "BOLIVARIAN" HERE IN THE SENSE THAT IT SYMBOLIZES (UNLIKE CUBA) VENEZUELA'S SOLIDARITY WITH ITS WEAKER SISTER STATES. NOTHING WE COULD DO WOULD HAVE A MORE FAVORABLE IMPACT ON GOV PERCEPTIONS OF OUR ROLE IN LATIN AMERICA THAN SUCCESSFUL CANAL NEGOTIATIONS.
SHLAUDEMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975CARACA09141
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750304-0776
From: CARACAS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750985/aaaacxjy.tel
Line Count: 79
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 192947
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 SEP 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <14 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THIRD COUNTRY ISSUES
TAGS: PFOR, VE, XM, US, OAS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006